

No. 18

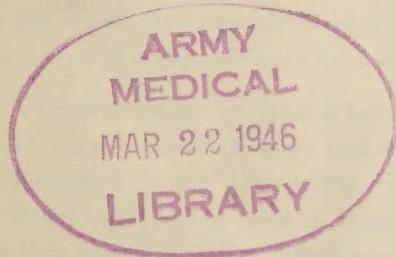
15 November 1945

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Military Government

Weekly Health Report

This report is a
continuation of the Public Health Section
of the Military Government
WEEKLY FIELD REPORT



HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER
OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT (U.S. ZONE)
PUBLIC HEALTH BRANCH

1. Occupied Germany:

a. Communicable Diseases: — Communicable disease incidence in the American Zone during the week ending 26 October 1945 is shown in Appendices "A" and "B".

One case of typhus was reported from Augsburg and one from Buchloe of Land Bayern. Contacts were dusted with DDT powder and immunized. The entire population of Buchloe was disinfested with DDT powder by German sanitarians, under the supervision of Military Government Public Health personnel.

In Greater Hessen, power dusters for use with DDT delousing powder were obtained from an Army Medical Depot for distribution to each Regierungsbezirk.

German refugees arriving in Baden-Württemberg area are being examined and all health hazards isolated.

b. Venereal Disease: — RB Ober- und Mittelfranken reported venereal disease cases the highest for any single week. Increased incidence may be due partly to better reporting, but number of cases is undoubtedly increasing. Tentative plans call for establishment of approximately six venereal disease treatment centers throughout the Regierungsbezirk. Penicillin will be made available at these centers. Since many German physicians are not trained in use of penicillin, and of those specializing in this work, many are using obsolete methods, certain specialists will be selected for these centers, and will be given instruction in modern methods of venereal disease treatment, including proper use of penicillin. A public health officer will be assigned from this detachment to instruct in treatment and supervise operation of centers. Full publicity by radio press and bulletins will be given to inviting voluntary treatment and recheck of patients having previously completed treatments.

P H

Arrangements have been made for the venereal disease examination of approximately 300 civilian employees of Bremen Port Command. This is being done as a case-finding survey of a representative cross-section of the civilian population.

c. Hospitalization: — Efforts have been concentrated upon insuring sufficient means to expand civilian hospital capacities if required by epidemics or other emergency. Between 1935 and 1938, in the area now occupied by the United States Zone, there were 11.3 existing beds in hospitals per thousand population, or a total of 152,734 beds before expansion. There were only 100,709 beds in the spring of 1945 and on 1 November 1945, there were only 121,500, or 7.9 beds per thousand population. Because 15 beds per thousand is a minimum safe number to meet epidemic conditions, all indigenous resources have been surveyed and the shortages of equipment necessary to provide if expansion should be necessary, have been reported as supply problems. German authorities have been directed to plan utilization of additional buildings for hospitals by insuring available additional equipment. To obtain equitable distribution of Prisoner of War patients and medical personnel as they may be discharged, action has been initiated to obtain an orderly phasing of discharge. Only by that means may personnel and plant facilities be assured for continuance of hospital care by civilians of the PW discharged and still requiring treatment.

d. Nursing: — Surveys of German nurses have been completed in all Regierungsbezirke of Land Bayern except Schwaben. There is no shortage of hospital nurses at present. There is a very marked shortage of trained public nurses, as a result of denazification.

In Greater Hessen, the applications of two nursing schools were approved and the schools were reopened.

e. Sanitation: — Food and beverage analyses by the Bavarian chemical laboratory showed that 20% of 233 samples submitted, had been adulterated or were otherwise unfit for consumption. In such instances, the evidence is turned over by the laboratory to local civilian police, who, in turn, prosecute offenders in accordance with German law.

German engineers have completed a survey of 117 Bavarian community waterworks requiring repairs or enlargement. Estimated costs were from 500,000 to 525,000 marks.

In an inspection of water supply sources in Greater Hessen, several small water sources were found to be contaminated, and were ordered closed. The repairs to war-damaged distribution systems have been practically completed, except in Giessen. The repairs to the mains in that city are approximately 73% complete.

f. Nutrition: — Surveys by nutritional teams in Munich and Bayreuth, show that caloric consumption, in all ration categories, is in excess of the authorized allowance, due to supplementation of the diet with potatoes and other vegetables and fruit from gardens.

Five to seven percent of children and adolescents (1—19 years) showed evidence of Vitamin A deficiency (hyperkeratosis). Weights were comparable to American standards for various age groups, except in those more than 60 years old. The latter weighed less, on the average, than Americans of the same age.

Diets were generally slightly deficient in calcium and riboflavin. Hemoglobin and serum protein determinations were normal. In 443 persons, only one instance of anemia was noted.

g. Veterinary: — Twenty-three civilian veterinarians completed a refresher course in Munich on 29 October 1945. They will replace official veterinarians removed from office because of political affiliations.

Another course will be inaugurated 19 November 1945.

APPENDIX "A"

Communicable Disease Report United States Zone of Germany

for Week Ending 26 October 1945

Land or Regierungs- Bezirk	Popu- lation	Reported Number of New CASES and DEATHS of COMMUNICABLE DISEASE									
		c	cases	d	: deaths	Mumps	Influenza	Rabies	Infectious Jaundice	Malaria	Epidemic Encephalitis
Kassel	1,159,153	c	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		p	—	—	—	66	20	16	1	19	7
Wiesbaden	1,181,602	c	—	—	—	73	30	11	4	41	—
		p	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hessen	910,471	c	—	—	—	91	41	19	1	—	—
		p	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Württemberg	1,908,000	c	—	—	—	199	31	44	4	8	—
		p	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Baden	1,420,750	c	—	—	—	121	18	43	2	5	—
		p	—	—	—	6	1	1	1	—	—
Bremen (Encl.)	558,096	c	—	—	—	196	18	25	—	—	—
		p	—	—	—	5	—	8	—	—	—
Schwaben	949,043	c	—	—	—	77	17	18	1	*	—
		p	—	—	—	4	—	3	2	—	—
Oberbayern	1,932,163	c	—	—	—	128	28	89	8	9	1
		p	—	—	—	5	—	14	—	—	—
Nieder- and Oberpfalz	1,989,220	c	—	—	—	94	35	122	37	* 1	—
		p	—	—	—	7	1	10	—	—	—
Ober- and Mittelfranken	1,605,274	c	—	—	—	174	64	45	7	2	—
		p	—	—	—	9	—	13	—	—	—
Mainfranken	910,980	c	—	—	—	44	15	25	1	5	—
		p	—	—	—	4	—	5	—	—	—
Berlin (US Sector)	800,000	c	—	—	—	144	23	81	—	* 1	—
		p	—	—	—	9	1	51	—	—	—
TOTAL	15,233,752	c	—	—	—	1407	340	538	66	45	7
		p	—	—	—	77	3	—	2	—	—

*No data submitted

APPENDIX "B"

Communicable Disease Rates United States Zone of Germany
for Week Ending 26 October 1945

Land or Regierungs- Bezirk	Popu- lation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Kassel	1,159,153	—	—	—	—	—	—	29.63	8.98	7.18	.457.18	—	—	41.76	18.41	8.53	3.14	—	—	*	12.57	—	—	—	—	—	24.7	* .45		
Wiesbaden	1,181,602	—	—	—	—	—	—	32.12	13.2	4.84	1.76	*	1.32	—	35.2	17.6	1.32	3.52	—	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	* *	
Hessen	910,471	—	—	—	—	—	—	51.96	23.41	10.85	.57	—	—	*	*	6.28	—	0.57	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.42	—
Württemberg	1,908,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	54.33	84.63	12.01	1.09	2.18	.27	—	54.05	11.74	4.1	1.09	.27	—	*	16.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	* —
Baden	1,420,750	—	—	—	—	—	—	44.29	6.59	15.74	.73	1.83	—	—	*	*	4.03	—	.37	—	*	.73	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	* *
Bremen Enclave	558,096	—	—	—	—	—	—	102.67	16.78	23.3	—	*	—	—	*	*	2.8	2.8	1.86	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—	* *	
Schwaben	949,043	—	—	—	—	—	—	42.20	9.32	9.86	0.55	*	—	0.55	30.14	7.67	3.84	0.55	0.55	—	1.10	*	37.26	—	—	—	—	—	* *	
Oberbayern	1,932,163	0.54	—	—	—	—	—	34.43	7.53	23.94	2.15	2.42	0.27	0.54	32.55	7.80	5.65	1.88	11.30	—	—	9.95	—	—	0.54	2.15	—			
Niederbayern and Oberpfalz	1,898,220	—	—	—	—	—	—	30.46	11.34	39.53	11.99	*	0.32	—	46.01	14.26	20.09	0.65	1.62	—	*	84.24	2.27	0.32	0.32	* *				
Ober- and Mittelfranken	1,605,274	—	—	—	—	—	—	47.68	17.54	12.33	1.92	.55	.27	.27	40.0	15.62	13.43	1.92	1.1	—	—	38.91	—	—	2.74	—	—	—		
Mainfranken	910,980	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.12	8.57	14.28	0.57	2.86	—	—	13.70	3.43	4.57	0.57	—	—	—	0.57	68.52	—	—	—	29.69	—	1.14	
Berlin (Am Sector)	800,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	93.6	14.95	52.65	—	*	—	.65	144.3	24.7	92.3	4.55	29.25	.65	—	*	*	—	—	—	—	* *		
TOTAL	15,233,752	0.07	—	—	—	—	—	47.98	11.59	18.35	2.25	1.53	0.24	0.17	36.86	10.64	11.97	1.60	3.48	0.03	0.07	0.10	24.35	0.24	0.07	0.10	4.98	—	0.07	

Rate expressed as per 10,000 population per annum for population of 15,233,752